March
April
2019

Community: Come to the Table

Monthly News
And Updates for
Partners of
The Drum Family

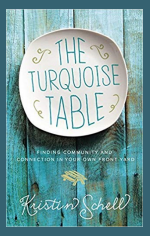


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Join us in prayers and praises P.3
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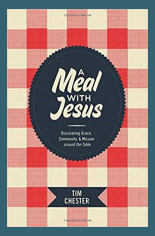
Come to the Table and Build Community!

Want to build better community with your neighbors? Come to the table! Here are some suggested reads around this subject:



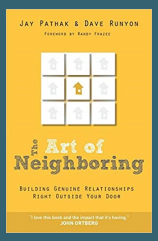
The Turquoise Table: Finding Community and Connection in your own Front Yard

by Kristin Shell



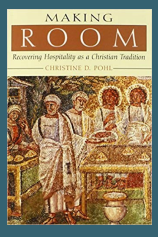
A Meal with Jesus: Discovering Grace, Community, and Mission Around the Table

By Tim Chester



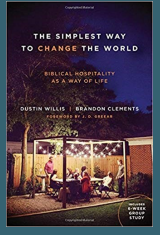
The Art of Neighboring: Building Genuine Relationships Right Outside your Door

By Jay Pathak and Dave Runyon



Making Room: Recovering Hospitality as a Christian Tradition

By Christine Pohl



The Simplest Way to Change the World: Biblical Hospitality as Way of Life
By Dustin Willis and Brandon Clements

Building Community around a Turquoise Table

It's Monday. It's drizzly and cool. We just changed our clocks forward, so the sun is just barely starting to rise as the school day rush begins. For our newest neighbors in town, their school rush started at least an hour before ours because they must walk their children in to town for school – in the dark, in the drizzle, in the cold, carrying backpacks and babies for 6 kilometers one way. Back in The States, I remember paying good money for the opportunity to do 5K walks on the weekends. But my new friends do this every day, one way, because it's a privilege to have a home and food and a new chance at life and education. After they drop their children off at school, they walk some more. Not back to their temporary housing, but around and around town, trying to find a warm, dry place to sit for a few hours until school gets out and they can pick up the kids and start the walk back to the center for lunch at 3pm. With little to no disposable income to spend on a coffee or a drink, they are not welcome to spend time in a warm café or shop. And until they receive employment status (6 months or more), they cannot find work.

This is what daily life looks like for many of our refugee friends in Antequera. New arrivals are placed in one of two relocation housing centers to await processing of their paperwork and be given refugee or asylum status. These centers are strictly housing and meal centers – there is no community space or activities and nothing for the residents to do. The largest center for our town is located in the industrial park, in between storage buildings and warehouses, factories and car dealerships and mechanic workshops. It's not exactly where you want to raise your children, but it's better than where they came from and they are more than pleased with the bedroom and meals and safety that is now a luxury.

In the past several months, our TMS Global team in Antequera has become more and more involved with the refugee community here in Spain. As routes shift and situations continue in war-torn and high-conflict areas, Spain has become the number one European entry point for refugees and asylum seekers in the past year. We have new friends from Russia, Georgia, Syria, Nigeria, Somalia, Morocco, Pakistan, Mali, Venezuela, and many others. While the Spanish government and the EU are scrambling to meet basic needs, our team and church are reaching out to fill in gaps and help welcome people in to our community, in to relationships, and in to a new "normal". As we walk alongside our new neighbors, we are listening and watching and the main need and desire is the same for all… acceptance, belonging, relationship, and a place to call 'home'.

Enter "*La Mesa Turquesa*" Community Center!

Concept:

a community center space (1075 sq ft), centrally located, where displaced peoples can come and hang out, enjoy a coffee or a cup of tea (self-serve), practice language skills, play table games, and build relationships. Think of a large living room / coffee shop atmosphere.

Continued on page 2...

Continued from page 1… La Mesa Turquesa

A place to connect people to each other, to connect them to services and opportunities and people of peace in our town. A place to meet friends. A place where people can feel welcome. A place that feels like "home", or at least a new place to call home. A place to share culture. A place where natural conversations can happen. A safe place.

Open 9am-2pm, with afternoons and evenings open for special classes, tutoring, or events.

A space that can be used for workshops, classes, study, cultural dinners, game nights, art, and music. A place to celebrate birthdays or cultural events with new family in a new place.

Bottom line: A place where The Kingdom can be lived out among our new neighbors in very tangible and relational ways. **#loveyourneighbor**

Atmosphere:

A very large turquoise table (*La Mesa Turquesa*) in the center of the room for games, group conversations, craft projects, study groups, classes, large group meals, etc.

Mismatched sofas and armchairs and small sitting areas around the room for more intimate conversation areas. Small tea tables. Comfy pillows and textiles.

Wi-Fi! Refugees and displaced people thrive on Wi-Fi as it is their only way of communicating with family and friends left behind or those who made it to other countries.

Country and culture décor… a huge world map on one wall, with a smattering of country maps all around it to help people connect to countries of origin, sense of pride, memory. A photo gallery wall or photo art project (collaborative project with the refugees themselves helping design it) that showcases their photos that they submit for display.

Shelves, boxes, baskets, tables scattered around with books and games.

A music corner – a place set up with instruments for people who wish to create and connect via music. A cajon, guitar, keyboard, djembe, and other instruments from various cultures.

"For years, the global church has been praying for God to show us how to reach the countries and people in the 10/40 window. What if this is our answer? People from the 10/40 window are now coming to us! We don't have to find ways to go to them. They are coming to our cities and towns. We've been praying to reach them, and now they are here. So, thank God for answered prayers and let's extend a hand and love our new neighbors!"

~M.P. (a cross-cultural worker in Europe)

***La Mesa Turquesa* Community Center** directly reaches diaspora people, connects locals to diaspora people and culture and the reality of global issues, gives opportunity for community members and the church to serve and connect in a variety of ways, breaks out of traditional outreach and church circles and integrates daily life with community, brings various city / community / and church entities together to work on a single initiative, connects newcomers to our community in positive ways… AND YOU CAN BE A PART OF THIS PROJECT!
***La Mesa Turquesa* Community Center** gives our USA partners a way to connect to refugee outreach and effect real neighboring initiatives and change in a global way.



Our team feels very strongly about joining both local AND international forces in this effort. Our local connections are getting on-board and joining with us via volunteers and support. But we want this to truly be a GLOBAL effort to love our neighbors!

How can you get involved and be a part of ***La Mesa Turquesa* Community Center**?

- Help fund this special project. We have monthly overhead of $650. Our immediate start-up cost to open the doors is $5600. You can help cover those costs by giving monthly to our Special Project account at www.tms-global.org/partners-and-projects/details/refugee-community-center . Or you can give a one-time gift to help us get off the ground and open by May 1. A gift of any amount is much appreciated!
- We have an Amazon wish list! Go to our list on Amazon Spain (https://www.amazon.es/hz/wishlist/ls/VXXONQZT0EUH?&sort=default) and choose to help with any of the ongoing needs and items we use for the center. This is where we will keep a list of supplies we need for classes and activities that we provide through the center. It will ship directly to our team for ***La Mesa Turquesa***.
- BIG GOD-SIZED WISH… We would love to eventually have the funds to give employment to a refugee who has received full residency status and has full paperwork for employment. This is a huge hurdle for them as finding employment is very difficult. To have a former refugee running ***La Mesa Turquesa*** would be perfect!



We hope you'll join our TMS Global team and our local community and invest in ***La Mesa Turquesa* Community Center**.

Follow us on Facebook at ***La Mesa Turquesa - Antequera***

and on Instagram at ***La Mesa Turquesa Antequera.***

A few March and April photos...



TMS Spain team on a team building hike in El Torcal Natural Park (UNESCO site).



Frank Decker came to visit! Frank was one of the many who came to use La Posada in Mar/April.



Antequera is beautiful in Spring.





Juan keeps us laughing for lunch!



Billy sings in a community choir. They performed Mozart's Requiem in various locations in March.





Holy Week processionals.



Please join us in prayer and praises:

We are honored by your faithfulness to partner with us in prayer for the things that we see happening in the world and for the ministry that we partner in with you. Thank you for laboring with us!

- **Pray for our team** as we work to launch a new initiative (see page 1 - La Mesa Turquesa Community Center) . This project combines church es and local NGOs, charities, and community members to reach out to refugees and displaced people entering our community.
- **Pray for us** as we continue to care for other CCWs and host people in the La Posada care apartment. It has been a busy season! We have people staying here for most of April to rest, restore, and recalibrate while receiving care and debrief services. Thank you for making that possible for them!
- **Pray for us** as we navigate a really busy and stressful season of ministry... the launch of La Mesa Turquesa, many La Posada care guests, hosting a conference for people who work with refugee and immigrants, leading an online training group, and other leadership responsibilities leaves us with tight margins and hectic schedules. Pray for us to maintain our boundaries and downtime and remain healthy physically, emotionally, spiritually, and relationally. Pray for our family to weather this season with grace and love for each other and for our neighbors.

TMS Global

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TMS GLOBAL

- Sharing the Love of Christ with the least, the lost, and the left out… immigrants, displaced peoples, the lonely, the abandoned, those who need a friend. Walking alongside our neighbors.
- Nurturing and developing people to be healthy spiritually, physically, emotionally, and relationally - because "care" is not just an emotional feeling word, "care" is a verb - an action. That's what we're about - developing and caring for people so they can live into their unique design and God-given purpose.

Become a Partner! We would love to have you on our team!

Contact The Drums:
Skype billy.drum
USA ph# 979-985-5238
(rings through to Spain)

Whatsapp: #34 652 144 783

Mail to The Drums:
Laurie y Billy Drum
Apdo #46 Correos
29200 Antequera, Malaga
España



Dear Billy and Laurie,

☐ I will pray for you.
☐ As God provides, I plan to partner with you by giving $_____Per month / year.
Special note:_____

Name (PLEASE PRINT) _____
Address:_____
City:_____ St ._____Zip_____
Phone:_____ Home Church:_____
Email Address: _____

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